

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Study Guide for "Sweet Potato Pie," pp. 211-23

I. **Vocabulary:** Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the story or class discussion.

A. collective (adj.): \_\_\_\_\_

B. antiquity ( ): \_\_\_\_\_

C. ubiquitous ( ): \_\_\_\_\_

D. futilely ( ): \_\_\_\_\_

E. apex ( ): \_\_\_\_\_

II. **Literary Elements:** Define terms. Answer questions.

A. Theme: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Possible theme for this story: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Another Possible theme for this story: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Symbol: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name one object from story and what it may symbolize: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name a second object from the story and what it may symbolize: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Setting for this story: \_\_\_\_\_

III. **Before you read** (mini-Cornell notes):

Sharecropping

Notes go here

IV. Questions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences on separate paper.

A. Recall

1. On what two occasions do the narrator's parents come into "sharp focus" as "solid entities"?
2. Who takes care of Buddy on a day-to-day basis when he is a boy?
3. What does Buddy accomplish that his parents and siblings do not?
4. Why doesn't the family get together anymore?
5. According to the narrator, what does the pie in the brown paper bag **symbolize** to Charley?

B. Interpret

6. Why, do you think, Buddy has so few early memories of his parents?
7. How would you describe the relationship Buddy has with his siblings—especially Lil and Charley—as he is growing up? Use details from the story in your response
8. What does Buddy mean when he thinks, ". . . I wasn't necessarily the smartest—only the youngest"?
9. Are the members of the family close or have they become alienated from one another? Use details from the story to support your answer.
10. In your opinion, why doesn't Charley mind carrying the paper bag?

V. Point of View:

- A. Identify the POV in this story: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. List several quotes (min. 3) that reveal the POV. Explain how the quotes you have chosen are proof of the POV you have chosen: